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To: [Planning and Sustainability Commission](#)
Cc: [Commissioner Fish](#); [Commissioner Fritz](#); [Hales, Mayor](#); [Commissioner Novick](#); [Commissioner Saltzman](#); ted@tedwheeler.com
Subject: [User Approved] Zoning testimony
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To whom it may concern:

With the development of our new Comprehensive Plan, Portland has a unique opportunity to take the lead (as we did with our Bottle Bill) in embracing egalitarian zoning *throughout our City*. Through the support of racial and income diversity *in each and every ZIP code* in Portland, we will not only be living what Portlanders like to think of as our values, but we will be addressing one of the key drivers of inequality--educational parity for all children, regardless of family income.

I support the concept of middle housing as an alternative to McMansions and skinny houses as long as they are planned for and developed *in each and every neighborhood or ZIP code*.

They can increase density, promote affordability and support diversity, while remaining in character with existing homes.

By promoting an equitable mix of income levels *in every ZIP code* we will be allowing kids, regardless of household income, to go to the same schools and to receive the same quality of education. It is not right that some schools can raise more money for playgrounds and other amenities, while poor schools (I.e. poor kids) do without. Having *all levels of housing in every ZIP code* has the added benefit of enriching the lives of the more privileged by introducing them to fellow citizens with different experiences and perspectives. Additionally, by having kids go to good schools, in their own neighborhoods, the City would be promoting a sense of community. "Community" is lost when we bus kids out of their neighborhoods in the hope that they will receive a better educational experience.

Again, I support middle housing as part of the solution to our housing, educational and racial crises. But it must be implemented *In every neighborhood* in Portland.

We Portlanders like to consider ourselves as "creative" and "out of the box" thinkers. Let's lead the way out of these current local and national crises by demonstrating our commitment to equality for all. Let's open our hearts and do the right thing for our kids, our neighborhoods, our City, our nation and our future.

Respectfully,

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Sent from my iPhone